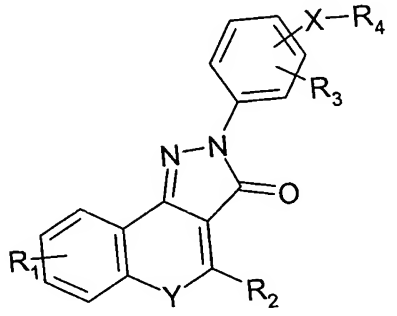
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

wherein

R_1 and R_3 independently represent H; F; Cl; Br; $-NO_2$; $-CN$; C_1-C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by F or Cl; or C_1-C_6 alkoxy optionally substituted by F;

R_2 represents H, or optionally substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl or optionally substituted phenyl;

Y represents -O-, -S-, N-oxide, or $-N(R_5)-$ wherein R_5 represents H or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

X represents a bond or a divalent C_1-C_6 alkylene radical;

R_4 represents $-C(=O)NR_6R_7$, $-NR_7C(=O)R_6$, $-NR_7C(=O)OR_6$, $-NHC(=O)NHR_6$ or $-NHC(=S)NHR_6$ wherein

R_6 represents H, or a radical of formula $-(Alk)_b-Q$ wherein b is 0 or 1 and

Alk is an optionally substituted divalent straight chain or branched C_1-C_{12} alkylene, C_2-C_{12} alkenylene or C_2-C_{12} alkynylene radical which may be interrupted by one or more non-adjacent -O-, -S- or $-N(R_8)-$ radicals wherein R_8 represents H or C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_3-C_4 alkenyl, C_3-C_4 alkynyl, or C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, and

Q represents H; $-CF_3$; -OH; -SH; $-NR_8R_8$ wherein each R_8 may be the same or different; an ester group; or an optionally substituted phenyl, C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl, C_5-C_7 cycloalkenyl or heterocyclic ring having from 5 to 8 ring atoms; and

R_7 represents H or C_1-C_6 alkyl; or when taken together with the atom or atoms to which they are attached R_6 and R_7 form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring having from 5 to 8 ring atoms.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_1 is H, F, Cl, methyl or methoxy.

3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R_2 is H, methyl, methoxy, cyclopropyl, phenyl, or fluoro-, chloro-, methyl, or methoxy-substituted phenyl.

4. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein R_3 is H, F, Cl, methyl, methoxy, or methylenedioxy.

5. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein Y is -O-, -S-, or $-N(R_5)-$ wherein R_5 represents H or methyl.

6. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein X is a bond, or a $-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2CH_2-$ radical.

7. A compound as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein R_4 represents $-C(=O)NHR_6$, $-NR_7C(=O)R_6$, $-NR_7C(=O)OR_6$, $-NHC(=O)NHR_6$ or $-NHC(=S)NHR_6$ and in these R_6 is H or a radical of formula $-Alk_b-Q$ wherein

b is 0 or 1 and

Alk is a $-(CH_2)_n-$, $-CH((CH_2)_mCH_3)(CH_2)_n-$, $-CH((CH_2)_mCH_3)((CH_2)_pCH_3)(CH_2)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_m-$, or $-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_m-$, radical where n is 1, 2, 3 or 4 and m and p are independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and Q represents H, -OH, $-COOCH_3$ phenyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, pyridyl, furyl, thienyl, or oxazolyl. and

R_7 is H, or when taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached R_6 and R_7 form a pyrrolidine-2-one or pyrrolidine-2,5-dione ring.

8. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_1 is H, F, or Cl; R_2 is H; R_3 is H, F, or Cl; Y is-NH-; X is a bond; and R_4 represents $-C(=O)NHR_6$, $-NR_7C(=O)R_6$, $-NR_7C(=O)OR_6$ or $-NHC(=O)NHR_6$ wherein:

R_6 is H or a radical of formula $-Alk_b-Q$ wherein b is 0 or 1 and

Alk is a $-(CH_2)_n-$, $-CH((CH_2)_mCH_3)(CH_2)_n-$, $-CH((CH_2)_mCH_3)((CH_2)_pCH_3)(CH_2)_n-$, $-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_m-$, or $-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_n-O-(CH_2)_m-$, radical where n is 1, 2, 3 or 4 and m and p are independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and Q represents H, -OH, $-COOCH_3$ phenyl, cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, pyridyl, furyl, thienyl, or oxazolyl. and

R_7 is H, or when taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached R_6 and R_7 form a pyrrolidine-2-one or pyrrolidine-2,5-dione ring.

9. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R_1 is F, R_2 is H or cyclopropyl, R_3 is H, X is a bond, and R4 is $-C(=O)NHR_6$, $-NRHC(=O)R_6$, or $-NHC(=O)NHR_6$.

10. N-(3-Dimethylamino propyl)-4-(4-cyclopropyl-3-oxo-3,5-dihydro-pyrazolo[4,3-c]quinolin-2-yl]-benzamide, or pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 for use in the treatment of conditions which benefit from immunomodulation.

12. The use of a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of conditions which benefit from immunomodulation.

13. A method of immunomodulation in humans and non-human primates, comprising administration to a subject in need of such treatment an immunomodulatory effective dose of a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10.

14. A pharmaceutical or veterinary composition comprising a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 together with a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable excipient or carrier.